

# THE VINITA WEEKLY CHIEFTAIN.

VOL. XXI

VINITA, INDIAN TERRITORY, THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1903.

NO. 35

I Won't have my bald head tickled when I can buy a Screen Door at Darrough Hardware Co's. for 85c.

## FEDERAL JOBS.

Kansans Have a Majority of Jobs in the Territory.

## THEY ARE RUSTLERS

Curtis Distributes the Bulk of the Patronage. His Indorsement Generally Good for a Job When There is a Vacancy.

A correspondent of the Kansas City Journal writing from Muskogee this week has the following:

Kansas has a lion's share of federal jobs in the Indian Territory. No other state has one-third as many. This is due to its proximity to the territory, the ability of its politicians to rustle political jobs and the important part played by Kansas members of congress in legislation affecting the interests of the territory. Congressman Curtis, as a member of the Indian committee in the house, has had more to do with the shaping of Indian Territory legislation than any other member of congress. Curtis is a great friend of the Territory and the people here think much of him for the work he has done for them. This feeling is not confined to the government officials, who always look to Curtis for help on needed legislation, but extends also to business men and other citizens of the country. The Indians, themselves, feel very friendly to Curtis. They realize that their cause has been run in the settlement of their affairs they are continually before congress or the interior department, and Curtis has always assisted them in getting their matters disposed of. With a universal feeling of friendship here and a strong standing with the interior department and in congress Curtis has been able to land many friends jobs in the Indian service. Whenever an applicant having his indorsement was not appointed it was because there was no place open. For Curtis' indorsement goes in all departments here.

Senator Euron, being on the select committee for the five civilized tribes, is also in position to land a friend now and then. Senator Long, while congressman, never took much interest in Indian affairs. His ambitions ran in other directions. For that reason he never landed many men in jobs in the Indian country. Since his election to the senate, however, he has turned his eyes in this direction and found easy berths for a few friends. He landed Governor Stanley in one of the best jobs in the territory.

From now on there will not be much territorial patronage for distribution. The jobs are about all gone. The Dawes Commission has cut 250 employees off the payroll. The inspector has decreased the townsites force. The field work of both the Dawes commission and the townsites commissions has practically been closed, and the number of their employees will decrease gradually in the future.

Not many Kansans are losing their jobs as a result of the decrease. It is usually the other fellow who gets hit with the ax. Governor W. E. Stanley holds probably the star job of any Kansan here. He is on the Dawes commission, whose duty it is to administer of \$19,000,000 of land and divide it among 70,000 heirs.

Judge Gill, of Colby, Kas., has the next best job. He is judge of the Northern district of the territory at a salary of 5,000 a year.

P. S. Soper, of Topeka, a nephew of Cyrus Leland, holds the lucrative position of district attorney for the Northern district.

Phil B. Hopkins, of Kansas City, Kas., is chief law clerk for the Dawes commission. This is one of the most important places on the commission and pays well.

## EXCESSIVE HOLDINGS.

Chairman of the Dawes Commission Answers Queries.

John Pickman of Claremore recently wrote a letter to the Dawes commission in quest of information regarding excessive land holding in the Cherokee nation, and Chairman Tame Bixby makes the following answer which is printed in full in the last issue of the Claremore Progress.

The commission to the five civilized tribes is in receipt of your letter of March 21, complaining that cattlemen are still holding land in excess of their respective allotments in the Cherokee nation, and refusing to permit other citizens to take possession of any of the excess land held by them. You refer to any alleged ruling of the commission requiring allottees to present a bill of sale to the land which they desire to file on, and state that the cattlemen are taking advantage of this ruling and refuse to give bill of sale unless the land is leased for a term of years. You ask what is to be done in such cases and "how long will these vampires be permitted to prey upon poor citizens?" You enclose a list of questions for answers regarding the allotment of land in the Cherokee nation.

In reply your attention is called to sections 18 and 19 of the Cherokee agreement proclaimed Aug. 12, 1902, which provides as follows:

"Sec. 18. It shall be unlawful after 90 days after the ratification of this act by the Cherokees for any member of the Cherokee tribe to inclose or hold possession of, in any manner, by himself or through another, directly or indirectly, more lands in value than that of 110 acres of average allottable lands of the Cherokee nation, either for himself or his wife, or for each of his minor children, if members of said tribe; and any member of said tribe found in possession of lands or having the same in any manner inclosed, after the expiration of ninety days after the date of the ratification of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

Sec. 19. Any person convicted of violating any of the provisions of section 18 of this act shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$100, shall stand committed until such fine and costs are paid (such commitment not to exceed one day for every \$2 of said fine and costs) and shall forfeit possession of any property in question, and each day on which such offense is committed or continues to exist shall be deemed a separate offense. The United States district attorney for the northern district is required to see that the provisions of said section 18 are strictly enforced, and he shall immediately, after the expiration of the 90 days after the ratification of this act, proceed to dispossess all persons of such excessive holdings of lands and to prosecute them for so unlawfully holding the same, and the commission to the five civilized tribes shall have authority to make investigations of all violations of section 18 and make report thereon to the United States district attorney."

As the time within which persons were permitted to dispose of their excess holdings has now expired, all land held at this time by citizens of the Cherokee nation in excess of their prospective al-

lotment has become, in effect, public domain, and subject to occupancy by any citizen not already in possession of land equal in value to 110 of average allottable land. No person can receive an allotment of more than his distributive share, and excess will be allotted to the other citizens, and their right hereto will be determined upon personal application at the Cherokee land office. As the United States district attorney for the northern district of Indian Territory is required to see that the provisions of section 18 are strictly enforced. It is suggested that you communicate with him with reference to the matter.

Your several questions and the commissions answers are set forth below:

1 How is a citizen to know public domain when he sees it?

Public domain is unimproved land and land not lawfully held by a citizen of the Cherokee nation as a part of his prospective allotment.

2 What must a citizen do in regard to improvements to be recognized by another citizen on public domain?

3 What improvements on public domain must a citizen have to be recognized by the land office?

Improvements may consist of broken or cultivated land, line of posts for a fence or stones or logs for the foundation of a house.

4 Must a citizen have a bill of sale from anyone to take up any of this unimproved cattle range?

Any citizen will be permitted to make application for any land he claims as a part of his allotment, even though he does not hold a bill of sale to the land. The commission requires that where a citizen does hold a bill of sale to the land selected, that the bill of sale be filed with his application for allotment.

5 What is the penalty for anyone willfully smuggling a claim in order to keep another citizen from occupying it?

See the provisions section 18 and 19 already quoted in this letter.

6 What means have we to know whether any particular tract of land has been filed on?

The Commission will furnish this information promptly upon an application describing the township, range and section numbers.

7 Would it be unlawful for a citizen to take an allotment in another citizen's enclosure when it is known that such citizen has excess?

A citizen of the Cherokee nation will be permitted to make application for the allotment of any land which he claims the right to file on, but any other citizen claiming the land will be notified and given an opportunity to appear and institute a contest for the land within the time provided by law.

8 It is rumored that adopted citizens have been debarred from filing. Please give us light on this.

The basis of this rumor is probably the fact that the secretary of the interior has referred to the court of claims the question of the rights of citizens by intermarriage to land in the Cherokee nation, and pending the determination of this question, the department is withholding its approval of the final enrollment of such citizens by intermarriage.

There will, however, upon application of any applicant for enrollment as a citizen by intermarriage of the Cherokee nation, be withheld from allotment pending a final decision of the rights of intermarried citizens, land not exceeding in value 110 acres of average allottable land of the Cherokee nation, upon which such applicant may own improvements.

## NEW VENTURE.

Territorial Townsite Association Is Launched.

## VINITA'S INTERESTS.

Will Be Systematically Handled By The New Company. There Is Plenty of Capital Behind the Movement.

Yesterday there was organized in this city a Territorial Townsite Association that proposes to look after the interests of Vinita in a better organized and more thoroughly systematized way than has hitherto been attempted. It will take the place of a chamber of commerce and will devote its energies to the development of the resources of this section. It includes, or will include as soon as their names can be added, practically the entire business interests of this city. An aggressive effort is now to be made to take care of the interests of this magnificent section that is now attracting the attention of capitalists in all parts of the country. The board of directors elected are: J. W. Sanders, Davis Hill, E. N. Ratcliff, J. W. Orr, W. E. Halsell, Oliver Bagby, W. R. McGeorge, W. H. Darrough, E. C. Stretch.

## THE "KATY" LAND GRANT

Lawyers to Serve Notice on the Choc-taws and Chickasaws To-morrow

Lawyers sent from the law office of the general attorney for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas yesterday to Atoka and Tishomingo, where the land office of the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations will be opened to-morrow, to serve notice on commissioners protesting against the segregation and allotment of the land claimed by the Missouri, Kansas & Texas as a part of the land grant made years ago by Congress to the first road that should push south from Kansas through the Indian Territory to Texas. This means every alternate section for ten miles on both sides of the track through the entire Indian territory. Similar notices were served when the land offices of other nations were opened. The Missouri, Kansas & Texas does not hope to hold this land, but does hope to force some kind of a settlement with Congress.

## The Tablequah Way.

Lot jumping has commenced as a result of the work of the government surveyors. When the surveyors laid out the town they made several erratic crooks in the streets and alleys and confiscated some property. As a consequence some of the old property holders are unable to tell just where their property ends and the property of another begins, and to be on the safe side, are gobbling up all the property of the others that they can get hold of. There is a grand scramble on now and the courts will be called upon to settle the trouble.

## A Sweet Breath.

Is a never failing sign of a healthy stomach. When the breath is bad the stomach is out of order. There is no remedy in the world equal to Kodol Dyspepsia Cure for curing indigestion, dyspepsia and all stomach disorders. Mrs. Mary S. Crick, of White Plains, Ky., writes: "I have been a dyspeptic for years—tried all kinds of remedies but continued to grow worse. By the use of Kodol I began to improve at once, and after taking a few bottles am fully restored in weight, health and strength and can eat whatever I like. Kodol digests what you eat and makes the stomach sweet." A. W. Foreman

Croquet sets at Frazee Hardware & Furniture Co.

## The Territory Press.

The South McAlester Capital, having discovered two Republicans who expressed themselves favorably toward the separate statehood idea, is enraptured by the high principles shown by the two gentlemen. We do not wish to disturb the Capital, the wet nurse of the gasping and always feeble infant, in its frantic attempts to find some consolation in the dying hours of the pet it long has fondled (seeing not its weakness so apparent to others, and, with loving eyes, beholding in what all others regard as a monstrosity, a "bee-you-teous child,") but the thought will not down that the men quoted are federal office holders who would not be at all averse to a continuation of that from which statehood will forcibly amputate them—a fat job—therefore they welcome any move which promises to complicate matters and postpone the evil day in which they shall surrender their positions—Purcell Register.

Chief Buffington informs The Star that he has appointed Louis R. Nash as expert accountant to examine the books and records of late Cherokee Town Commissioner T. A. Chandler, but that the Secretary of the Interior has not appointed an accountant yet on part of the government. This will be done soon in the opinion of the Chief. The Chief also gives information that he has appointed W. T. Hutchins to look after the Delaware segregated lands, with a view of deriving some revenue from them for the nation. He will soon have a report from Mr. Hutchins. Also that Cravens & Rutherford, two able attorneys, will defend the Cherokee stray law in behalf of the nation. All of which shows that Chief Buffington is alive to interests of his people.—Sallisaw Star.

The city deposits next year will be placed with that bank which offers the largest per cent for them. This will stop the bank fight in our city elections. The city printing can be put out to the lowest bidder also, so far as the Leader is concerned. But this year the bank fight has been made. One bank lost—another won. It is too late to come in now with this proposition. It should have been made before the tickets were named, if made in good faith. But now that the fight has been fought let the victors have the spoils. Start even next year and keep petty fights out of all future elections.—Leader.

## Chronic Bronchitis Cured.

"For ten years I had chronic bronchitis so bad that at times I could not speak above a whisper," writes Mr. Joseph Coffman, of Montmorency, Md. "I tried all remedies available, but with no success. Fortunately my employer suggested that I try Foley's Honey and Tar. Its effect was almost miraculous, and I am now cured of the disease. On my recommendation many people have used Foley's Honey and Tar, and always with satisfaction." Sold by Shanahan & Mitchell.

## Prospective Lead Mines.

The latest improved machinery will be put to work in sinking a shaft in the lead mines near Afton on Rly Creek. A practical miner and a graduate mineralogist have examined the land and decided the prospects the finest known.

## Dreadful Attack of Whooping Cough

Mrs. Ellen Harrison, of 300 Park Ave., Kansas City, Mo., writes as follows: "Our two children had a severe attack of whooping cough, one of them in the paroxysm of coughing would often faint and bleed at the nose. We tried everything we heard of without getting relief. We then called in our family doctor who prescribed Foley's Honey and Tar. With the very first dose they began to improve and we feel that it has saved their lives." Refuse substitutes. Sold by Shanahan & Mitchell.

## SAND BRICKS

Any sand hill or sand bank is a good place for a brick yard. No need of clay, dryers or kilns to produce a sound, perfect face brick, (and at a lower cost than common clay bricks are usually made) out of sand and a small per cent of lime in 10 HOURS in any weather, winter or summer. Factories are now in successful operation in the United States and other countries; and cannot supply the demand on them; and are yielding most satisfactory profits. Any size, shape or color of bricks can be made under this system, and every brick perfect. We own the patents covering this new process for making brick for Texas, Oklahoma and Indian Territories. Write us for further information and price of City or County rights.

Texas White Brick Co. PARIS, TEXAS

## MEREDITH BROS. Veterinary

Physicians, Surgeons, Dentists. Permanently located. Office at Webb Bros' stables, South Wilson street. Office phone 82, Residence phone 69. Hospital for patients d

## Brinson & Patterson, Leading Lumber Dealers.

Opp. Presbyterian Church. Phone 19. dw

## J. T. Payne, C. E.

Muskogee, I. T. Allotments surveyed in any part of the Territory. Write me. dw

## I Fit The Eyes

WITH

Lenses That Relieve Frames That FIT

## Edward Rose

Optician

2 Doors East

Of The Vinita National Bank. (4-110)

## Cobb & Walker

Civil Engineers and Surveyors.

OFFICE With F. L. Buckhalter Vinita, I. T.

Do a general engineering business in all parts of the Territory. Work fully guaranteed. Offices, Muskogee, I. T., Vinita, I. T. Correspondence solicited. dw S. A. Cobb J. P. Walker, C. E. Jun. Am. Soc. C. E.

## THE LIVE STOCK MARKET OF ST. LOUIS.

The St. Louis National Stock Yards.

Located at East St. Louis, Ill.

Directly opposite the city of St. Louis. Offers for all description of live stock always in attendance, and within the grounds of the Stock Yards is a beef canning company, with a capacity for slaughtering 2,000 head of cattle daily, and pork packing establishments having a capacity for slaughtering 12,000 hogs daily. O. G. Knox, Vice Pres.

C. T. Jones, Sec. - Mgr. L. W. Hark, Asst. Gen. Mgr. SAMUEL HUNT, Gen. Agent for Texas and Indian Territory. dw